

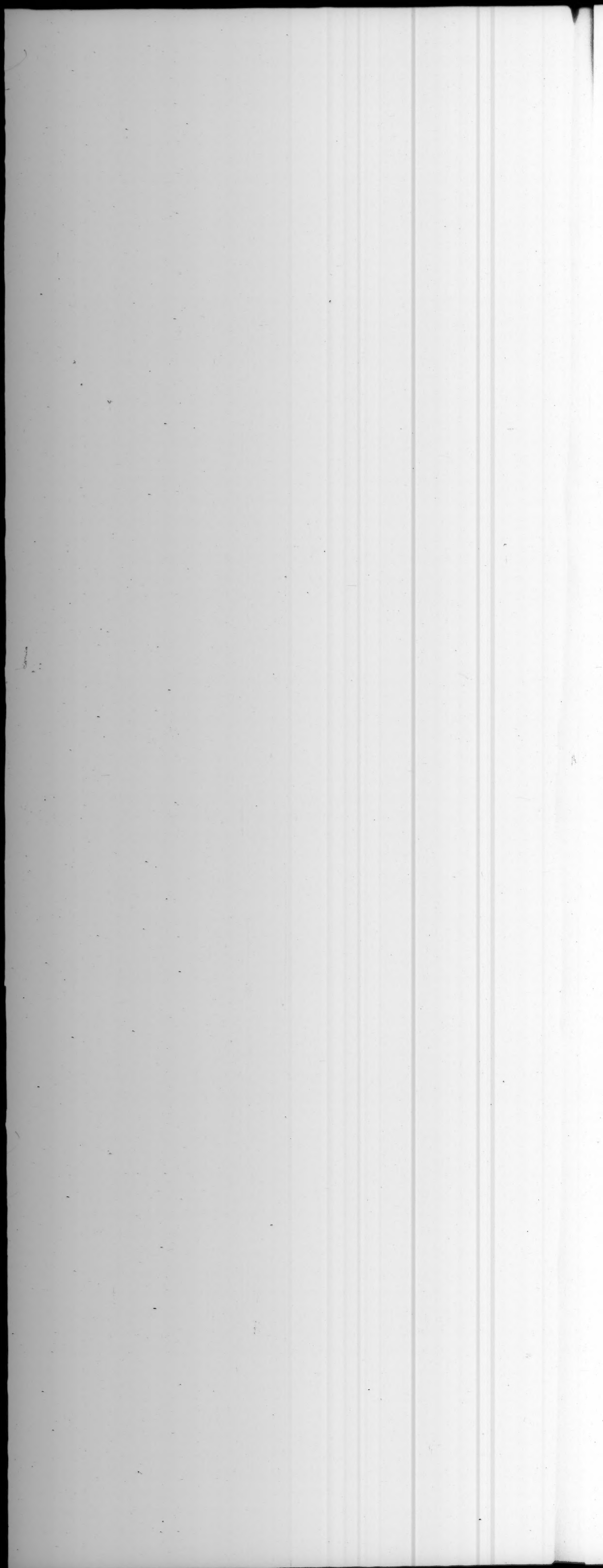


By the King.

A Proclamation declaring His Maiesties pleasure,
concerning the proceedings had, and to be had, against Popish
Recusants, according to the Lawes, and for directions to His Maiesties
Commissioners for that Service, both in the Southerne
and Northerne parts.



Hereas heretofore, Wee, by the aduice of Our Priny Counsell, did grant Our seuerall Commissions vnto seuerall Commissioners, vnder Our great Seale of England, both for the Southerne and Northerne parts of this Our Realme respectively; And did thereby giue vnto Our said Commissioners, full power and authority in Our Name, and to Our vse, to treat and compound with all persons convicted, or then after to bee convicted for Recusancie, either dwelling or residing in the seuerall Counties, Cities, or Townes, in those seuerall Commissions mentioned, or hauing any Manours, Lands, Tenements, Leases, Goods or Chattels, within those Counties, Cities, or Townes, or any of them respectively, for Leases of their Lands, or Farmes, or other composition for the forfeitures of such Recusants incurred or forfeited, or which should bee then after incurred or forfeited, according to the tenour of those Commissions, and of such instructions and directions for Our Service, as in, and by the said Commission sealed with Our great Seale of England, and instructions signed with Our Royall hand, doth at large appeare. The benefit of all which forfeitures, and summes of money which did, or should by that meanes accrew or growe vnto Us, out of the Counties, Cities & Townes in the Northerne parts of this Kingdome, wee did then specially appoint to be employed for, or towards the providing, arming, and maintaining of fixe able Shippes of warre, for the defence and guard of those Northerne parts, and of the Shippes, Vessels, Goods and Merchandize, passing and repassing by those Coastes, which were more dayly infested and endangered by enemies and Pirates, like as wee did then also appoint and destinate those summes of money which should accrew vnto Us by the forfeitures of Recusants in all other parts of this Our Kingdome, for, or towards the maintenance of Our Raie, and other publique Services, and no wayes to bee employed to Our particular or priuate vse; Since which time Our sayd Commissioners did proceede, and make compositions accordingly with many of those Recusants, and haue raised diuers summes of money soorth of the same, which were employed to the vse as aforesayd, to Our good pleasure and content: But by reason of Our great Services in Our high Court of Parliament, the execution of those Commissions hath for a tyme been interrupted, yet now the Session of Parliament beeing ended, wee haue renewed those Commissions, and intend really and roundly to proceede therein.



Now, to the intent that Our pleasure herein may be the better knownen, Wee doe hereby signifye and declare Our Will and pleasure to bee, that all such persons who haue made such Compositions with Our sayd Commissioners respectiue, shall with all conuenient speede, and, at the furthest before the end of Michaelmas Terme next, take their Leases and Graunts of the same, or otherwise they shall lose the benefit and aduantage of such their Compositions, and it shall bee lawfull for any other person or persons to take the same by Grant or Lease from Us.

And for so much as wee are pleased and contented to continue Our fauour and grace to the said Recusants, according to Our instructions giuen to Our said Commissioners in that behalfe, Wee doe heereby declare, and make knownen to all Our Subjects, whom it may any way concerne, that wee haue now againe, by the like aduice of Our Prīue Counsell, granted and renewed Our seuerall Commissions, to the purposes aforesaid, and haue thereby giuen vnto Our sayd Commissioners full power and authoritie in our Name, and to Our vse, to treat and compound with all persons convicted, or hereafter to bee convicted for Recusancie, in manner and forme before mentioned, and to the same end and purpose before specified, for all Debts, arrearages, and seizures, without any restraint or limitation of time.

And, to the end that Our pleasure herein may bee the better knownen, and that all Our Subjects, whom the premisses any way concerne, may the better take notice thereof, and apply themselves accordingly, for the dispatch of their occasions in that behalfe, we, by the like aduice of Our Prīue Counsell, haue thought fit to publish and declare the same by this Our Royal Proclamation, and doe hereby publish and declare the same, willing and requiring all those, whom it shall or may concerne, to repaire to Our said Commissioners, at such times and places, as they shall from time to time appoint, who, or a competent number of whom, according to the tenour of Our sayd Commissions respectiue, shall and will bee ready to giue dispatch to all Suitors who shall desire the same.

And, wee doe hereby further declare Our pleasure and resolution to bee, That, if any Recusant whom it may concerne, shall refuse or neglect to accept of Our grace thus offered, and to bee extended vnto them by Our said Commissioners, They must know, that wee are fully resolved against all such, to take the vttermost benefit of those forfeitures, which haue accrewed, or shall accrew vnto Us, without any further fauour towards those, who shall so neglect it; And to accept of the offers of those who shall first come to compound with Our Commissioners on Our behalfe for the same.

Giuen at Our Court at White-Hall, the seuenth day of Iuly, in the fourth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God saue the King.



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M.DC.XXVIII.

